

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKESIDE MAN LOSES HUNTING PRIVILEGES FOR THREE YEARS AND IS SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS PROBATION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on March 25, 2003, Loren D. Covington of Lakeside Arizona, was sentenced for the federal crime of Illegal Taking of Wildlife, in violation of Title 16, United States Code, Section 3271(a)(1), by a Magistrate Judge in Phoenix, Arizona.

Covington entered a plea to an Information charging him with the illegal taking of an Elk on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation in September of 2001. Covington admitted shooting a large Bull Elk (*Cervus canadensis*) on the reservation without a permit and knowing that he was required to buy a permit to hunt Elk on the reservation. It was referred to as the "420" Bull due to its size and potential Boone and Crockett score.

Covington was sentenced to 5 years probation. Among the terms of the probation were the following: Loss of hunting privileges for three years any where in the United States, restitution to the San

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Carlos Apache Tribe in the amount of \$17,000.00, loss of the rifle used to take the Elk, and eight weekends in jail. The case was handled by Magistrate Judge Lawrence Anderson.

The investigation was conducted by Special Agent Curtis Graves of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Timothy Stevens, a criminal investigator for San Carlos Game and Fish Department, and Dan Dymond of Arizona Game and Fish. The prosecution was handled by Paul V. Rood, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-758-PHX-LOA
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